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Transcripts

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Portraits of Veterinary Medicine

About two years ago the communications office at the School received a call from Lee Gutkind, a Pittsburgh writer. "I am an immersion journalist and writing a book about veterinary medicine," he said. "I want to present a true picture of veterinary medicine today, describe the day-to-day duties and dilemmas clinicians encounter and show the diversity that exists in the field." Mr. Gutkind visited the School many times, followed clinicians around, saw them on the farms, in the operating rooms, in the intensive care units and in clinics. He visited private practices, zoo practices and talked to many people in the profession.

The result is *An Unspoken Art*, a realistic portrait of veterinary medicine today and a very readable, interesting book, published by Henry Holt and Co. The book explores why those profiled chose veterinary medicine as a profession and talks about the daily challenges facing the veterinarian. It is also about the tremendous compassion and caring Lee Gutkind observed everywhere he visited. It is a "must read" book for anyone interested in the profession. It should be of particular interest to the alumni of the School, to the recent graduates for the portraits of some of their teachers and to the older alumni for the changes it portrays. People who are contemplating veterinary medicine as a career should also read this book. It gives a very realistic picture of today's veterinarian, a person with great compassion in a field with many professional options to pursue a specific area of interest. The book is available for \$25 at your bookseller. 🐾

Special gifts

An anonymous alumnus pledged a gift of \$600,000 to support the renovation of student housing at New Bolton Center.

Mr. Jack McCrane made a gift of \$100,000 in honor of his wife, Margrit, to the Humanitarian Fund, an endowment fund established at VHUP to assist needy clients in providing veterinary care for their animals.

1997 Penn Annual Conference

Many thanks to the 750 veterinarians who attended the 1997 PENN ANNUAL CONFERENCE. We are very grateful for the constant support of our alumni, they make this conference a success year-in and year-out. Mark your calendar for the 1998 Penn Annual Conference dates: Wednesday, January 28 and Thursday, January 29 at the Adams Mark Hotel in Philadelphia.

Dr. Charles Newton presented plaques to sponsors and patrons:



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1. Address: Ashra Markowitz
University of PA, Sch. Vet. Med.
Student and Curricular Affairs
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Philadelphia, PA 19104
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